

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:  
primary transferring device for transferring a toner  
5 image formed on an image carrier to an intermediate  
transfer member;  
secondary transferring device provided in proximity  
to said primary transferring device on downstream side  
of said primary transferring device along a pivotal  
10 rotation direction of said intermediate transfer member,  
for transferring the toner image which has been once held  
by said intermediate transfer member to a paper; and  
position determining device abutting against a plane  
of said intermediate transfer member where said toner  
15 image is not held, for determining a position between  
said primary transferring device and said secondary  
transferring device.
2. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
20 1, wherein said primary transferring device causes said  
intermediate transfer member to abut against said image  
carrier in a wrap shape so as to transfer said toner image  
to said intermediate transfer member.

3. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
1, wherein

5 said secondary transferring device forms a secondary  
transfer portion by a secondary transfer member which  
is opposite to a plane of said intermediate transfer member  
where said toner image is held,

said position determining device forms a flat plane  
portion by said intermediate transfer member, and  
10 said flat plane portion is formed and directed to  
said secondary transfer portion.

4. An image forming apparatus according to claim  
3, wherein

15 said flat plane portion formed by said position  
determining device is inclined at a predetermined angle  
with respect to a paper transport path in such a manner  
that a tip portion of said paper is suppressed to be  
contacted to said intermediate transfer member until said  
20 paper reaches said second transfer portion, and that a  
shock occurred when said tip portion of said paper rushes  
into said secondary transfer portion is relaxed.

5. An image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein

said paper transport path is formed on a surface of a toner collecting vessel which collects a toner left  
5 on said image carrier, and

said paper transport path is formed in such a manner that an angle at which said paper rushes from said paper transport path with respect to said secondary transfer portion is smaller than or equal to 45 degrees.

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6. An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said position determining device is a tension roller for applying tension to said intermediate transfer member.

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7. An image forming apparatus comprising:

an image carrier forms a toner image on a surface of said image carrier;

an intermediate transfer member to which the toner  
20 image formed on said image carrier is transferred via a primary transfer portion, and which transfers said transferred toner image via a secondary transfer portion to a paper; and

a tension roller abutting against a rear surface  
25 of said intermediate transfer member so as to apply tension to said intermediate transfer member,

wherein said tension roller forms said primary

transfer portion,

said tension roller forms a flat plane portion directed to said secondary transfer portion, and

5 said tension roller is arranged within a projection area which is directed from a secondary transfer member for forming said secondary transfer portion to said image carrier.

8. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
10 7, wherein

said paper transported from a substantially vertical lower direction is entered into said flat plane portion formed by said tension roller at a predetermined angle.

15 9. The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, wherein

said predetermined angle is smaller than or equal to 45 degrees.

20 10. The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, wherein

said predetermined angle is larger than, or equal to 20 degrees and smaller than, or equal to 35 degrees.

11. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
7, wherein

said intermediate transfer member is a belt member  
5 made of an elastic member.

12. An image forming apparatus comprising:

an image carrier in which a toner image is formed  
on a surface of said image carrier;

10 an intermediate transfer belt made of an elastic  
belt, which abuts against said image carrier in a wrap  
shape at a primary transfer portion, and once holds the  
toner image formed on said image carrier;

a secondary transfer member for transferring said  
15 toner image which is once held on said intermediate  
transfer belt to a paper at a secondary transfer portion;  
and

a position determining member provided inside said  
intermediate transfer belt and provided between said  
20 primary transfer portion and said secondary transfer  
portion, for determining both a position of said primary  
transfer portion and a position of said secondary transfer  
portion.

13. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
12, wherein

5 said position determining member forms a flat plane  
portion between said position determining member and said  
secondary transfer member.

14. An image forming apparatus according to claim  
12, wherein

10 said position determining member is provided in  
proximity to said image carrier.

15. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
12, wherein

15 said image forming apparatus has an exposing device  
for forming a latent image every color with respect to  
said image carrier, and

said paper using for secondary-transferring said  
toner image rushed into said intermediate transfer belt  
20 while a latent image of a final color is being formed  
by said exposing device.

16. An image forming apparatus according to claim  
12, wherein

25 while a toner image of a final color is being  
transferred onto said intermediate transfer belt at said  
primary transfer portion, a paper which is used to

secondary-transfer thereto the toner image rushes into  
said intermediate transfer belt.

17. An image forming apparatus according to claim  
5 12, wherein

said intermediate transfer belt is suspended on said  
image carrier by a plurality of members including said  
position determining member so as to form said primary  
transfer portion.

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